

Claims

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for viewing electronic information comprising the steps of: displaying in a first window a physical page from an electronic document containing information from a predefined page format, wherein the electronic document comprises representations of at least one physical page, and a visual reference emphasizing information on the at least one physical page, extracting the information emphasized by the visual reference on the at least one physical page, presenting the extracted information in a second window and presenting a navigation tool in a third window.

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2. The method of claim 1 wherein the physical page is represented in an electronic page view.

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3. The method of claim 1 wherein the physical page is represented as an icon including a thumbnail of the physical page.

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4. The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second window are the same window.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the second window is an enhanced interactive window including a thumbnail image of a physical page, a graphic image of a physical page, text, free flowing text, icons, hyperlinks, menus, and control elements.

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6. The method of claim 1 wherein the navigation tool presents an extraction of content and annotations.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the step of selecting further comprises the step of enclosing the annotation with a box.

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8. The method of claim 1 wherein the second window may be placed in various positions relative to the first window, including on top of the first window, adjacent to the first window, and partially covering the first window.

5 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the second window further comprises a control panel for managing the extracted information.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the extracted information may be viewed simultaneously in a multiple of enhanced interactive windows.

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11. A computer system for viewing electronic information, the electronic information comprising textual and graphic data of electronic books and documents, the system comprising: an information manager for manipulating graphic images of physical pages and annotations bounding electronic information from the physical pages, an enhanced
15 interactive window for displaying the electronic information, and a navigation tool for manipulating the electronic information in a third window.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein the enhanced interactive window comprises at least one window that displays extracted information from the physical pages.

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13. The system of claim 11 wherein the enhanced interactive window includes a thumbnail image of a physical page, a graphic image of a physical page, text, free flowing text, icons, hyperlinks, menus, and control elements.

25 14. The system of claim 11 wherein the information manager further comprises a database for storing annotations, extracted electronic information, and the relationships in the system.

15. The system of claim 11 wherein the database includes a structure tree for storing
30 relationship information associating electronic information with extracted electronic information.

16 The system of claim 11 wherein a visual reference emphasizing the electronic information is displayed on the physical pages.

5 17. The system of claim 11 wherein the annotations and the electronic information are stored in separate files.

18. The system of claim 11 further comprising a scroll bar based on logical increments.

10 19. The system of claim 11 further comprising an acronyms manager, a citation manager, an icons manager, or style manager.

20. A computer system for viewing electronic information, the system comprising: a visual display for displaying an enhanced interactive window and a navigation window
15 based upon electronic information in a page description format; a storage medium for storing and retrieving information related to the electronic information in the page description format; a computer processor coupled to the visual display and to the storage medium for accessing and processing information stored in the storage medium to provide a display of the enhanced interactive window and the navigation window; an
20 input means coupled to the computer processor for entering information related to the electronic information in the page description format; a software portion for creating a plurality of relationships between the enhanced interactive window, the navigation window, and the electronic information in the page description format; and a software portion for providing a graphical user interface for navigation and display.